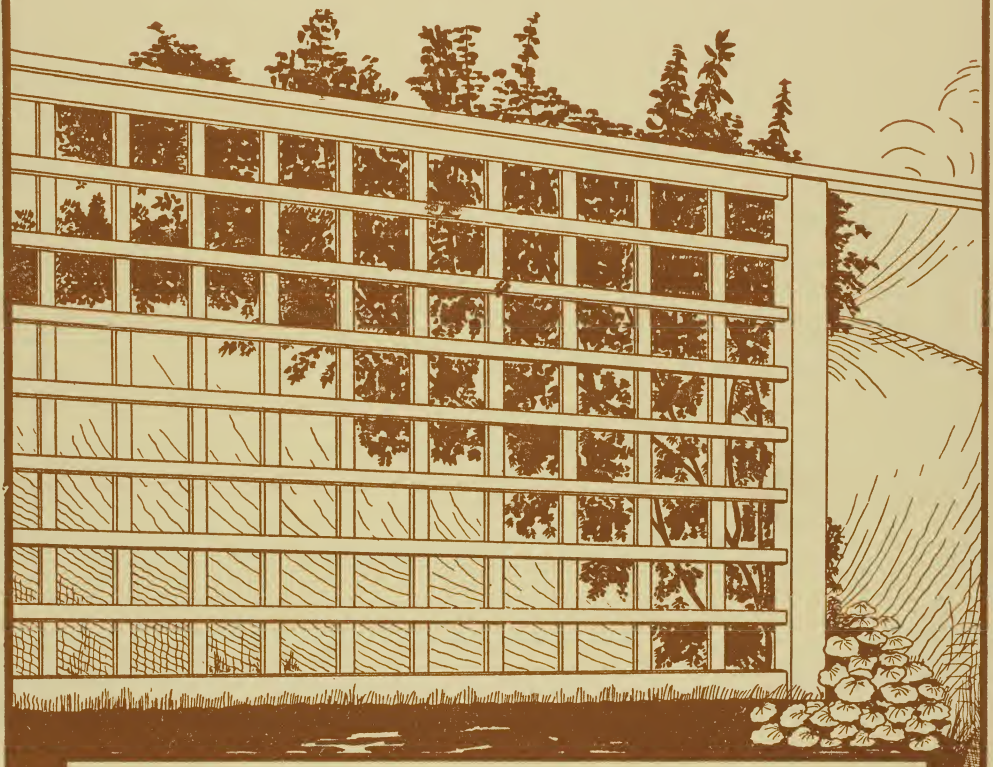
California Garden



IN THIS NUMBER

THE FALL FLOWER SHOW
THE NOVEMBER GARDENS
THE PLACE OF THE COMMON NAME
CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENT
FERNS FOR LATHHOUSES

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The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
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THE FALL FLOWER SHOW

The 14th annual Fall Flower Show of the San Diego Floral Association was voted a decided success from every standpoint. First, and most important, that of the quality and artistry of the exhibits, second from the variety and number of exhibits. This is an aspect of the flower shows which cannot be over emphasized. If these affairs are to be the value they should, they should show as great a variety of flowers as the season will permit —both for the educational value and to stimulate in those who view them a desire to go and do likewise or better. This brings us to our thirdly, to-wit, the attendance, which was more than satisfactory,—both to the committee in charge, who had expended every effort not only to create a large exhibit, but also to stage it in as artistic a manner as possible; and to those who were fortunate to attend what was probably one of the largest fall shows the Association has ever attempted.

No attempt will be made in this article to "cover" every interesting and beautiful feature of the show—for their name is legion, but just to here and there mention some of the entries—enough to cause pangs of regret in the hearts of those who were not present.

A gratifying gain in new entrants was shown, and, as is often the case, some of these new exhibitors carried away awards.

Altho it was necessary to hold the Show comparatively late in the season, the Dahlia exhibits were representative, and showed no apparent deterioration from say, two or three weeks earlier, some exceptionally choice specimens being displayed. The "Best Display of Marigolds," for which first award was made to Miss H. Coulter, was in the form of a giant basket of African Marigolds—variety, "Orange King". The first award for display of annuals also went to Miss Coulter, —the annuals being the tiny Dwarf Zinnias, which might have graced a garden in Lilliput. The A. D. Robinson exhibit was a revelation of the possibilities in lath house plants. Begonias,—tuberous, fibrous, rex in the unbelievable variety, displayed in pots, in baskets and on moss, together with the proper balancing of ferns, made a composite of unusual beauty and interest. The Frevert and Naylor lath houses were represented by meritorious exhibits, sharing honors with Mr. Robinson.

The decorated tables formed a much larger part of the show than in former years—so much so that new classes were formed, better to arrange the entries in this section. So there were dining tables, Hallowe'en tables, child's tables, birthday tables and a class for tables decorated by the schools. In the latter class the Domestic Science department of the grammar school carried away the first award with a Hallowe'en table worked out in African and French Marigolds, black cats 'n everything. The table decorated by the corresponding department of the High School was awarded first on a table decorated with California Holly and Asparagus plumosus.

The Hallowe'en table which was awarded first in its class decorated by Mrs. L. B. Waggoner, and was replete with jack-o'-lanterns, chiffon, etc., using Salvia and Asparagus plumosus as the subject material. The second award went to Mrs. H. L. Summerlin for a table in which African marigolds and black cats were interestingly blended.

Of the dining tables it is hard to mention any without mentioning all,—in which opinion the judges apparently concurred, as four awards were made instead of the usual two in this class. Considerable interest was shown in a vase of Valerian exhibited on one of the tables. Many of those of the younger generation were unacquainted with this flower of our grandmothers, but for those of more mature years it spanned a space of years, and brought back pleasant memories of an old fashioned garden back in Maine or Kansas or perhaps right here in California.

Several remarkable specimens of Maidenhair ferns were exhibited by Mrs. Chamberlain of Ocean Beach, who carried away all possible awards in this class.

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The Park exhibit was a center of attraction, consisting of a most effective grouping of Chrysanthemums, sword ferns , Dahlias, Crataegus, Cotoneaster, etc.

Miss Sessions' exhibit was not only interesting but highly educational, featuring the more unusual in planting material. Among the diversified varieties shown were specimens of Passiflora princeps—a flame colored sort, a Japanese Box for hedges, hanging baskets of Achimines, a collection of numerous Vitis species, various types of useful begonias, etc., etc., and all carefully labeled with names and where necessary a brief word regarding the habits, uses, etc., of each.

It is hoped that at the next show this habit of labeling will have spread to every exhibitor, and become chronic.

LIST OF AWARDS—FOURTEENTH ANNUAL FALL FLOWER SHOW

Section A.—Open to Professionals.

Class 1. Best hanging basket other than ferns—Specials, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Class 8. Best decorative plant—Specials, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Class 9. Best new plant or flower not shown before—Special, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Class 12. Best collection Begonias, cut or potted—Specials, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Clas 15. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias—Specials, Miss K. O. Sessions.

Section B.—For Amateurs—Dahlias

Class 17. Best three varieties "Cactus", one bloom each—1st, Miss. E. Mould; 2nd, Miss E. Mould.

Class 18. Best three varieties "Decorative", one bloom each—1st, Miss E. Mould; 2nd, Miss E. Mould.

Class 19. Best three varieties "Paeony", one bloom each—1st, Miss E. Mould; 2nd, Miss E. Mould.

Class 21. Best six blooms "Pompons"—1st, Mrs. Lew B. Harris.

Class 23. Best collection San Diego County Seedling, one bloom each—1st., Miss E. Mould; 2nd, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood; Special, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood.

Class 25. Best one bloom "White"—1st, J. H. Bradshaw; 2nd, Collins Gilmore.

Class 26. Best one bloom "Yellow"—1st, Miss. E. Mould.

Class 27. Best one bloom "Red"—1st, Mrs. Joseph Sefton; 2nd, J. H. Bradshaw.

Class 28. Best one bloom "Pink"—1st, Miss E. Mould; 2nd, J. H. Bradshaw.

Class 29. Best one bloom any other color —1st, Mrs. John Doane; 2nd, Mrs. Mary A. Greer; Special, Mrs. Joseph Sefton.

Class 31. Best vase of Dahlias not over 10 blooms—1st, Mrs. J. H. Bradshaw; 2nd, Mrs. Joseph Sefton.

Class 32. Best jardinier arrangement of Dahlias—1st, Mrs. Joseph Sefton; 2nd, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood; Special, Mrs. John Doane; Special, Mrs. Fred T. Scripps.

Best vase of Seedling Dahlias—Special, Mr. A. D. Robinson.

Best basket Dahlias—1st., Mrs. Edmund Lockwood; 2nd, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood.

Best arranged basket, using Dahlias—Special, Mrs. Fred T. Scripps.

Section C—For Amateurs

Class 33. Best collection of Zinnias, not over three blooms each—1st, Mr. F. J. Wright; 2nd, The Misses Yawger.

Class 34. Best six blooms red or red shaded Zinnias—1st, Mrs. Alberta Hinson; 2nd, Mrs. Percy Whitehead.

Class 35. Best six blooms pink or pink shaded Zinnias—1st, the Misses Yawger; 2nd, The Misses Yawger.

Class 36. Best six blooms yellow or yellow shaded Zinnias—1st, Mr. F. J. Wright; 2nd, Mrs. Percy Whitehead; Special, Mrs. Alberta Hinson.

Class 37. Best six blooms any other color Zinnias—1st, Mrs. Max Cook; 2nd, Mrs. Max Cook.

Class 38. Best jardinier arrangement of Zinnias—1st, Mrs. E. Strahlmann; 2nd, Mrs. Alberta Hinson.

Class 39. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias—1st, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood; 2nd, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood; Special, Miss E. B. Scripps.

Class 41. Best display of Marigolds—1st, Miss Hortense Coulter; 2nd, Mrs. Edmund Lockwood.

Class 44. Best display of Annuals—1st, Miss Hortense Coulter.

Class 45. Best display of Perennials—1st, Mrs. N. B. Osborne; 2nd, Mrs. L. B. Waggoner.

SEVEN—Cal Garden pfa oct 30

Class 46. Best basket of Annuals—1st, Mr. W. P. Brothers; 2nd, Mrs. L. B. Waggoner.

Class 47. Best new flower or plant not before exhibited—Special, C. F. Naylor; Special, Miss Elizabeth Hensel.

Class 48. Best display of cut or potted fiberous Begonias—1st, A. D. Robinson; 2nd, C. F. Naylor; Special, Mrs. F. T. Scripps.

Class 49. Best display of tuberous Begonias—1st, A. D. Robinson; Special, A. D. Robinson.

Class 50. Best one specimen fiberous Begonia—1st, C. F. Naylor; 2nd, Mrs. Frank A. Frye.

Class 51. Best one specimen tuberous Begonia—1st, Mrs. W. S. Milberry.

Class 52. Best one specimen Rex Begonia —1st, A. D. Robinson; 2nd, C. F. Naylor.

Class 53. Best collection Rex Begonias, leaves or moss—1st, A. D. Robinson; Special A. D. Robinson.

Class 54. Best specimen Rex, San Diego

Continued on page 6

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Wild Nature At The Flower Show

By Ralph W. Sumner.

The San Diego Society of Natural History has for many years had a botanical department, but until lately it has hid its light under a bushel. As fast as is possible it is now arranging and classifying material old and new, putting it in order so that the seeker for plant wisdom may see mounted specimens, and thus be able to learn the names of plants that interest him. It also plans to have a display of fresh wild flowers and plants of the season, properly labeled and in a setting that suggests their haunts, be it mesa, canyon or beach.

And this brings us to our subject; the display by the San Diego Society of Natural History at the Flower Show. In this case the writer had the pleasure of co-operating with Mr. Carroll Scott, nature lover, also of the Natural History Museum. The idea of the exhibit was to represent a small section of mesa, canyonside and bottom, showing the plants growing there at this season of the year, which is popularly supposed to have no plants in flower. At all season of the year one may find wild flowers in and about San Diego, even annuals are present. While collecting for this exhibit we found three: "Fairy Mats" (Euphorbia polycarpa), sometimes called "Rattlesnake-snake weed", because of its supposed virtue in case a rattlesnake decides to bite you; the well known "Annual Sunflower" (Helianthus annuus) growing near cultivated fields, and a "Buckwheat" (Eriogonum gracile). Just a few days later and before our splendid shower on the 19th of October, when the ground was as dry as powder, I found the modest little bulbous Saxifrage (Jepsonia Parryi). I spoke of this little plant in the April issue of "The Garden" as Saxifraga Parryi, a synonymous name. Also I mentioned its "mystery leaves," and now that the flowers are springing up, keep watch and your patience will be rewarded by the appearance of rounded hairy leaves, after the flowers have gone.

One plant exhibited held particular interest to the collectors. Cut and put in a jar it made rather a dull appearance, but out on the sunny hillside with bees busy gathering nectar and pollen it appeared a very different individual. "Blue Curls" (Trichostema lanceolatum) is the one I mean, and a lesson in pollination was most fascinatingly illustrated in actual life. You have noticed the long curved stamens and pistil that give it its common name, but have you noticed, as we saw that day, a velvety bumble-bee alight on the coralla to sip the sweetness and see the bundle of blue stamens bend with his weight caressingly over his back, dusting him with pollen. From flower to flower he goes repeating the process, and thus fertilizing each. A dainty, interesting transaction in nature it was, and this is what the "Natural History" wants you to see and enjoy. That is why we made the exhibit, to induce you to go into the open and see the works of His hand with your own eyes. Will you do it? And lay up for yourself treasures that no thief can take from you, neither moth nor rust consume.

Other plants exhibited follow herewith. A gourd called "Mock-Orange" (Cucurbita foetidissima) has yellow suquash-like flowers, is found from desert to sea, and the thrifty house-wife uses the smooth dried gourd for mending stockings. A long stemmed leafy perennial that has been brightening our mesas with its numerous yellow heads is "Isocoma" (Isocoma veneta vernonoides). The tall stalked plant with very hairy oily leaves, bearing at the top a panicle of pretty yellow Dandelion-typed flowers is "Heterotheca" (Heterotheca grandiflora). It grows in vacant lots and is termed a rank weed, but it gives a cheer to desolation and is therefore not useless. Also I have no doubt that the Indians employed its sticky gum in some useful way. The low, flat, almost white foliaged plant that inhabits open fields and mesas will be a surprise to you if you put it under your lens. It is matted with little silvery star-like hairs and is another member of the large Euphorbia family, of which our Poinsettia is King. It goes by the humble name of "Turkey Mullein" (Eremocarpus setigerus). It is said the doves eat the seed and probably other birds join in the feast. The large shrub with glossy sharp-toothed leaves hiding the post to the left of the exhibit was our "Holly-leaved Cherry" (Prunus ilicifolia). It is much used at Christmas time for wreaths, together with the "Christmas-berry" (Heteromeles arbutifolia).

Now then, those of you who need it, prepare yourselves for a round scolding. It is nearing the time for Thanksgiving and Christmas decorating, and far be it from me to discourage the delightful custom, but, vehemently, eloquently I would implore you to cut with care, using pruning shears and saw rather than the barbarous breaking and ripping to pieces of shrubs that have taken half a century or more to attain their beautiful form and foliage. These things are for us to enjoy, and there is plenty to go round, if each collector will control his desire to take the whole bush and the contented to clip judiciously here and there, and not to break the limbs. Another thing—if you must gather the Torrey pine needles for your basketry,

do not under any circumstances break off large limbs or smaller ones, but use less greed and pick the needles without injuring the stem, so they will grow again.

This little outburst of mine I am sure you will respect, and remember that whatever you collect from nature do it, not ruthlessly but with appreciation for the wonder of it all, and for the conservation of ourselves and posterity.

THE MARSTON GARDENS

By Mary Matthews.

"Laying out grounds may be considered a liberal art in some sort, like poetry and painting."—Wordsworth.

The above came very forcibly to me when it was my privilege some weeks ago to see the beautiful grounds of the Marstons', father and son, the occasion being the throwing open of them to the members of the Floral Association and their friends.

If the owners of beautiful places, or those where rare flowers, shrubs and vines are grown only realized how much the privilege is appreciated by those who are permitted to come, I do not think they would hesitate to throw open their grounds for an afternoon to all interested.

In this case the true use of the home grounds is made evident, beautiful plants and shrubs have been grown in a setting as tho' planned not by the skillful gardener but rather by nature herself, making a charming whole beautifully in keeping with the homes on one hand and with the outer landscape on the other, the home grounds running so beautifully into those of the park that it make one harmonious whole, one wonders where the one ends and the other begins. Familiar flowers are to be seen in groups, singly or maybe a long stretch of them, nor has the useful kitchen garden been neglected.

Trees, shrubs, and vines have been planted and cared for to enhance the general effect, each planting harmonious with its neighbor yet individual in character.

In well chosen positions eucalyptus have been planted in groups, singly, or on the canyon slope, seen as they are they are charming, they are in keeping, in harmony, characteristic of this section of country. The trunks of the citriodora variety, straight and supple or bending and swaying, never quite the same, as we glance from tree to tree, lend an air or indescribable grace and mystery to the whole vista. Just beyond the green trees and vines which separate the homes from the outerworld are the lath houses of Mr. Arthur Marston stocked with many beautiful luxurious growing plants, the crowning glory of the whole being the most magnificent specimen probably to be seen anywhere of the begonia Margery Daw. Situated in one end

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"THANK YOU"

On behalf of the Show Committee I desire to thank through the columns of The Garden all those who assisted the committee in making the Fall Flower Show such a pronounced success.

We are indebted to the First Unitarian Church for the use of a number of round tables which were necessary on account of the large number of entries in the decorated table class. These tables are in regular use in their Sunday School, yet they were willing to endure the handicap in order that they might be of service to the community.

We are also indebted to the Harry L. Benbough Furniture Company for the use of furnishings for the Garden booth, to the Sliver Gate Decorating Company for the loan of stands and to Merritt's Cafeteria for the use of tables and chairs.

We wish to express our appreciation to those who judged the exhibits, Mrs. E. E. White, Mrs. W. L. Frevert, Mrs. Frank D. Waite, Miss Mary Matthews, Dr. C. E. Pierce, Mr. Chauncey Vedder and Mr. G. R. Gorton for the painstaking care and the very acceptable way the honors were awarded.

We wish to thank Park Superintendent Mr. John Morley and his assistants for their cooperation in furnishing palms and greens for the decoration of the building and for their very meritorious exhibit of Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Zinnias.

We appreciated the interest taken in the show by such a large number of exhibitors and know they must feel well repaid for having a part in such a notable exhibit. The Committee expects to have every one of them with us in our future shows.

The Chairman wishes to publicly thank the members of the committee for their untiring efforts and loyal support without which success could not have been attained. These members were: Mrs. M. A. Greer, Mrs. W. L. Frevert, Mrs. Alberta Hinson, Miss Mary Matthews, Mrs. R. W. Case, Mrs. E. Strahlman, Miss Alice Greer, Miss K. O. Sessions, Mrs. F. D. Waite.

Mr. A. D. Robinson, Mr. Carroll de Wilton Scott and Miss K. O. Sessions contributed greatly to the educational feature of the Show thru the medium of short addresses made to those assembled on the afternoons of the show, for which the committee is duly appreciative.

This show has demonstrated what a little earnest, persistent effort will accomplish; may it stimulate us to still greater achievement in our Spring Show.

Sincerely,
F. L. HIEATT,
Chairman Show Committee.

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The November Gardens

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

The common hardy vegetables can now be planted and kept going continuously until next summer, and some of them right up to next fall.

To those who have not yet prepared the ground for the winter garden, do not neglect thorough wetting of the ground to a depth of two or three feet, after first applying a good top dressing of well rotted manure. As soon as ground is dry enough to spade properly dig to a depth of one foot and turn up leaving surface rough and somewhat open for a few days or longer, giving the air a chance to penetrate. Then rake off and lay out your ground for planting, figuring your rows to come about 3 feet apart for most vegetables. Set our your cabbage, cauliflowe. and kale plants from 18 inches to 2 feet apart in the rows, planting them firmly in the ground up to the first leaf. Plant onion sets about 5 inches apart, leaving a quarter of the bulb above the surface, and in cultivating be careful not to draw the soil to the onion.

Plant peas in furrows 2 inches deep, allowing 1 pound of peas to 100 feet of row. To keep up a succession of crops plant peas every two weeks. A few Broad Windsor beans will give good returns during the winter and spring months. Beets can go in about an inch deep and spinach nearly an inch. Fall, winter and spring are the best seasons for succesful growing of lettuce and Los Angeles Market leads all other varieties in Southern California. Plant seeds of radish, turnips, parsnips ,etc., and set out rhubarb roots and strawberry plants. Brussels Sprouts are a delicious vegetable and can be planted now. The importance of good cultivation after the seed has sprouted or plants have started cannot be over estimated. The gardener should never allow the soil to become baked or form an appreciable crust. Constant stirring of the soil between the rows should be practiced, this can be done either with hand tools or a wheel cultivator. Such a stirring permits the air to penetrate the soil, where it facilitates chemical action and bacterial activity, destroys weeds which would otherwise utilize large amounts of plant food, and finally conserves the moisture supply.

The rake is perhaps the most simple and best tool for the average home gardener, pro-

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

November is one of the months when you feel you can take things more slowly; the great rush of work, weeding, irrigating and looking after the various flower crops is not so strenuous as it was during the warm weather,—the days are cooler, the ground does not dry out so rapidly and most of the "specials" are past their prime. Roses, sweet peas, asters, dahlias, zinnias, and mums have covered themselves with glory and they too must take things slowly. Still, where your seedlings are coming up, whether in the ground or in boxes to be transplanted later, they will need care. Keep the soil moist and loose; if your ground has not been fertilized you can use bone meal to advantage by working it in around the plants. I am a great advocate for bone meal, it is one of the best and safest commercial fertilizers and probably the cheapest.

Any of your bulbs that have not been gotten into the ground should go in this month. If you have noticed how the price of bulbs has been added to the high cost of living you will want to put in every little bulblet and grow it to blooming size. I notice the humble calla is coming to the front, on account of the scarcity of true lilies owing to importation laws—likewise the Chinese lily, Narcissus orientalis, is scarce and high priced.

Put in all hardy annuals for late winter and early spring blooms—most of these can be sown in the open, though personally I perfer to sow everything that I can in boxes, I think you get better results in the long run, though there is more work. Nowadays the finest sweet peas are started in pots or boxes, then put into the ground from six to twelve inches apart and wonderful results have been gotten. There are always some new things offered each season in seeds and we ought at least try one or two of them. One dealer offers this fall as his great novelty seeds of Tithonia speciosa, "Mexican sun flower",—lists it as a true perennial. A large bunch of this was exhibited at our show this past month, and it was very showy and much admired. I always feel that anything Mexican ought to do well with us, notably the Dahlia; the Mexican tube rose grown in Mission Cliff Gardens was very fine. Tuberoses while they are deliciously fragrant are rather stiff and

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

Continued from page 5

vided you start with the ground in first-class condition. This can be passed backward and forward over the ground until it is in an open mellow condition. Where weeds grow close to the plants they can be pulled up by hand. Of course, after irrigation or rains, care and judgment must be used, so as not to disturb the ground until it will disintegrate readily.

LIST OF AWARDS

Continued from page 2

County seedling, cross or hybrid—1st. Mrs. W. L. Frevert; 2nd, Special, Mrs. W. L. Frevert.

Class 55. Best specimen Maidenhair Fern—1st, Mrs. Chamberlain; 2nd, Mrs. Chamberlain; Special, Mrs. Chamberlain.

Class 56. Best specimen fern, other than Maidenhair—1st, C. F. Naylor; 2nd, Mrs. Charles Calloway.

Class 57. Best collection fern fronds on moss—Special, A. D. Robinson.

Class 58. Best arrangement of Begonias and Ferns in bowl, basket or vase—1st, Mrs. Charles Calloway.

Class 59. Best Fern hanging basket—1st, C. F. Naylor; 2nd, Mrs. Stephen Connell.

Class 60. Best hanging basket other than Ferns—1st, Mrs. W. L. Frevert; 2nd, Mrs. Frank A. Frye.

Class 61. Best foliage plant for interior decoration—Special, Nick Ursino; Special, Mrs. W. L. Frevert.

Class 62. Best flowering plant for interior decoration, (in flower.)—1st. Mrs. E. Strahlmann.

Best dining table decoration—1st, Miss Elizabeth Hensel; 2nd, Mrs. Mary A. Greer; Special, Mrs. E. Strahlmann; Special Mrs. Charles Cressy.

Best Hallowe'en table decoration—1st, Mrs. L. B. Waggoner; 2nd, Mrs. H. L. Summerlin.

Best Birthday table decoration—1st, Miss Louise C. Yawger.

Best table decoration for Schools—1st, Domestic Science Dept., Grammar Schools; 2nd, Domestic Science Dept., High School; Special, Frances Parker School.

Best decorated Child's table—1st, Charlotte Robinson.

Best one Chrysanthemum—1st, Mrs. E. Strahlmann; 2nd, Mrs. E. Strahlmann.

Best three Chrysanthemums—1st, Mrs. E. Strahlmann; 2nd, Miss E. Mould.

Best six Chrysanthemums—1st, Mrs. E. Strahlmann; 2nd, Mrs. E. Strahlmann.

Best vase of Chrysanthemums—1st, Mrs. Percy Whitehead.

Best Flowering Vine—1st, Mrs. M. B. Younkin.

Best display of Shrubs—1st, Mrs. George Hart.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

Continued from page 5

hard to use as cut flowers.

Plant any of the hardy shrubs now that you want,—they will not make much top growth during the cool weather, but the roots will become established, and they will grow vigorously in the spring. Put in the Romneya or matilija poppy, this is a much admired native and every one who can persuade it to grow ought to have a clump. They like a dry rocky soil and no irrigation after they are established. Probably most of us saw and admired the orange flowered shrub exhibited by Mrs. Thelen at the fall show, this is Cestrum aurantiaca, closely related to the night blooming jasmine and can be grown in the same way. Shrubs are decorative in a garden if not planted too closely,—they want room enough to grow naturally and spread themselves, so to speak. Be sure and note the numerous berried shrubs that are to be seen,—you will want one at least in your garden. On account of war conditions the government has had no collectors in the field, but announces they will shortly, so there are new things in prospect for us. However, many of the old reliables are just as beautiful and ought to be taken care of. Make plans now for the Spring Show which usually comes the last of April. Think what you would like to show; try and have one good exhibit at least and encourage some one else,—especially one who has never exhibited before,—to bring in somthing good. The flower shows are one of the best educators we have, and a great stimulus. Think of the little corner of wild growth and the realistic bit of canyon we had placed in the last show. More than one person is planning to go out and find those things for themselves.

THE MARSTON GARDENS

Continued from page 4

of the house it must, as a very conservative estimate, have been at least ten feet high and equally so in breadth,—one glorious mass of bloom with the glancing light and shade forming a bewitching feature,—a sight to make an eastern glass house grower envious. Taken as a whole the grounds have a charming personality which will richly repay the owners as time goes on.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE—If It's in the CALIFORNIA GARDEN.

Best Flowering Shrub—Special, Mrs. E. Thelen.

Plant Stand—Special, Nick Ursino.

Display of Everlastings—Special "Parmenter".

Display of Whitmannii Fern—Special, Mrs. Stephen Connell.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THE OCTOBER MEETING

The October indoor meeting was held at the home of Mr. L. A. Blochman on the evening of the 20th. In the absence of Mr. Gorton the chair was taken by Mr. Hieatt. A representative audience enjoyed several songs by Miss Gladys Chanler, who was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Chase.

Mr. Hieatt gave a brief report of the Fall Flower Show. The receipts totaled $450, of which $100 was expended for the show. Of the net receipts $340, one-half was given to the Park Board for assistance, rental and general good will, leaving $170 for the treasury.

The subject of the evening, "Bulbs", was then introduced by Mrs. Darling, who spoke on "Growing Bulbs on a Commercial Basis". Mrs. Darling now sells 10,000 bulbs every season and finds a ready sale for all she can raise. She recommends the business to young women as being easy, sure, of good returns and pre-eminently healthful. Pacific Coast bulbs are in great demand because they ripen early in dry soil and are six weeks earlier than bulbs grown elsewhere. Narcissus are the most popular of all bulbs and well adapted to culture in San Diego.

Some hints for the best culture which Mrs. Darling gave are: Plant in well-drained loamy soil, fertilize with bone meal or animal manure, plant a little deeper than the bulbs grow, lift in June and keep in a cool, dry place.

Mr. Cushman, an expert grower of gladioli since 1892, spoke briefly of his experience with California conditions. He is interested at present in developing a gladiolus with a more flexible, graceful stem. He promised a regular gladioli talk some other time.

"First Essentials in Bulb Growing" was the theme of Miss Matthews' talk. She exhibited some fine-looking gladiolus bulbs. Bulbs which she has found specially successful in San Diego are Grand Monarch narcissus, Neapolitan allium, snowflakes and Star of Bethlehem. Miss Matthews cautioned growers not to cut the flower stalks, but to pull them out, because, when they are cut, the plant wastes energy trying to mature the stalk Also do not cut off many leaves of your bulbs for the plant needs its leaves to manufacture food.

Miss Sessions believes there is a great future for bulb growing in San Diego. Since Miss Sessions has always been a synonym for enthusiastic energy it was not astonishing, but of course gratifying, to hear her say that she is enthusiastic about bulb-growing.

It is essential to success to raise the right varieties of bulbs. For the present, with the standard varieties, we had better let alone tulips, crocus, daffodils, etc., which need cold weather to keep them in the ground long enough to make roots and vigorous blooms. These bulbs do well in Humboldt county, California. Better success may be expected from late tulips, the cottage or May tulips and the long-stemmed Darwin. Miss Sessions has great hopes for bulbs from South Africa, a region whose climate is similar to ours. We must grow for commercial uses bulbs that like a dry, mild climate. We can grow freesias for the whole United States. A promising new variety of freesia is the rainbow type. Other excellent bulbs for San Diego are pink belladonna amaryllis, blue African lily (agapanthus), the red amaryllis, which blooms best when grown in a tight cluster, the Spanish irises, ranunculi and ixias.

Miss Sessions advised planting bulbs deeper than is the general custom, six inches deep in most cases. The amaryllis is an exception—put it partly out of the ground.

Mr. Lawrence told of raising ranunculi from seed.

The chairman announced that Mr. Fultz was being engaged by the Association to come this winter and give several lectures as he did last year. Miss Matthews was appointed chairman of the "Bulb Section". Fine specimens of dahlias and chrysanthemums were exhibited as were also some fine paintings of wild flowers by Miss Eberhart of Los Angeles. Adjourned.

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MR. POTENTIAL ADVERTISER.

One of the Garden advertisers reports that he got $80.00 worth of business from a $1.50 ad. a few days after its insertion. If our arithmetic is any good he realized a profit of $78.50—over 5200%—which is about all a reasonable man could expect. He increased his advertising space.

THE PLACE OF THE COMMON NAME

By Carroll De Wilton Scott
(San Diego Natural History Museum.)

Editor's Note:—Mr. Scott's suggestion that inasmuch as an editorial pleading the case of the scientific name appeared recently in this magazine, an article setting forth also the merits of the common name would not be inappropriate, was welcomed as completing the story of nomenclature. Mr. Scott's plea for the common name is an eloquent one, and is worthy of the earnest consideration of the Garden readers.

The editor of the Garden has kindly given me space to present the case of the common name. Of course no right-minded person could take issue on the necessity and absolute desirability of having a Latin scientific name for everything in the world. Furthermore for the vast majority of things no other than the Latin name is desirable. But there seems to be a feeling in the minds of some that all species need a scientific name only and that common names have no particular value. The writer hopes to make it clear why common names, when they appear, are not only desirable but indispensable.

Not long ago I read that of the thousands of species of insects in New York state only about 100 were ever asked about by the general public. Right here we have the keynote to the common name. Every one of these thousands of insects has its Latin name current among entomologists in every country. But the proportion of people interested in these obscure Latin-named insects is perhaps one to ten thousand. The 100 insects have common names because the common name is the language of the people.

Go out in the hills and meet a score of plants. A fourth of them we will say have common names. Why? Why poppy or copa de ora or cat-tail or paint brush or white sage or yellow pine? Because these plants have had a vital interest to the average man or woman or child for decades, perhaps for centuries. To your right or left are Tropidocarpum dubium or Lemna minima or Bromus Orcuttianus. Why haven't they common names? Because the average person cares nothing about them. Often an obscure species leaps suddenly into importance. It may be a stock-poisoning plants, some red spider or scale. In that case it usually soon acquires a common name In Essig's "Insects of California" I believe all of the eighty odd species of scale are given common names.

But what of new introduced species that have no common names, say the leptospermum, plumbago, bougainvillea, etc. The Latin name becomes current unless the plant

It is objected that some plants have several common names sometimes conflicting. Personally I have found few cases of this and with the increasing use of popular nature books this disadvantage will tend to disappear.

Why have people given common names to flowers, animals, trees, birds, insects?. Is it merely to identify them? If that were all the Latin name would be sufficient and superior. But you lovers of plants, butterflies, birds or even rocks and mountains know full well that the name is part of the pleasure of the association. The more descriptive, suggestive, beautiful the name the more we enjoy the thing itself. Try to substitute technical names for swallowtail butterfly, burning bush, darning needle, bur clover, whippoor-will, scarlet bugler, and see what you lose. The common name is the common bond linking generations of nature lovers. It is alive with human interest, superstition, love. It holds folk-lore, poetry and fancy. It is the emotional record of the race.

What and where is the value of the common name? In the laboratory, in the technical paper the scientific name is all sufficient. But the moment the scientist deals with the public he must forget that he is a specialist and remember that he is a human being. If you want the wild life and the forests preserved, if you want civic interest in parks, gardens and street trees you must speak the language of the people. Of the thousands of species that the specialists knows the public is interested in a few score of real importance. The common name is the amateur. Remember the child and the average person will forever be amateurs. Even a botanist is an amateur in another science—he would not think of calling the western blue bird Sialia mexicanus occidentalis. If scientists wish to give over to the great public their knowledge, their help, their joys, their dreams they cannot afford to ignore the beauty and power of the common name.

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acquires a more familiar name. But if the people learn these names why should they not learn the scientific names of all other plants. For the same reason that although we introduced into our language during the war words like camouflage and barrage we nevertheless do not overthrow the English language for the French. The scientific name is a foreigner, to be naturalized through necessity. The common name is a member of our household or, if a stranger, one that we quickly become acquainted with.

And here we come to the real basic psychological reason for the common name. It has associations that have meant something to our ancestors. And when we want to teach children or interest the amateur, a great aid for us is the associative power of words. Of late I have been showing tourists our late autumn plants in Balboa Park. Do you think they would be as likely to remember with interest the chaming beauty of the California fuchia or humming-bird's trumpet if I called it Zauschneria microphylla?

No, Zauschneria microphylla may be interesting when you analyze it, but it has none of the picture power of language that the folk names have. The one is for the botanist, the nurseryman, the student; the others are for the child, the amateur, the average citizen. If these become interested enough in plants to know both names then as Mr. Gorton has pointed out, the scientific names have interests of their own. However, only a handful of us have studied Latin and the proportion will be smaller in the next generation.

The names of drugs are an illustration. Time was when the people gathered or raised medicinal herbs and gave them common names. Now our physician writes the prescription in Latin and the pharmacist deciphers it. We are not today interested in drugs —only in getting well. Since what we want is accuracy, the bottles in the drug store bear Latin names as they should. But if a manufacturer wants to sell a new toilet powder he calls it "Violet" or "Melba" or "Harmony"—he gives it a common name. Notice the picturesque names of smoking tobacco on the bill-boards.

I know some plants have beautiful Latin names which I think are widely used. Such, for example, are nemophila, phacelia, ceanothus, castilleja, calandrina. These plants, with two charming names, are favored of the gods. And yet beautiful as nemophila is it is a weak symbol compared with baby-blue-eyes, words of Anglo Saxon origin that have a power of suggestion which the other word will never have.

A NEW FLOWER GROWING COLONY

For a few years past Miss Kate Sessions has been ambitious to establish a flower growing colony on her land at Pacific Beach, known as "Soledad Terrace".

It is situated on the brow of the hill to the north of the Army and Navy Academy at Pacific Beach. Good soil, frostless conditions and a beautiful situation make the location desirable for the work and now the new water supply from Lake Hodges, which will supply La Jolla and Pacific Beach, makes the water question more favorable.

By November first, two young women, Miss Elizabeth Johnson, one of San Diego's good teachers, and Miss E. M. Tunnell, formerly of Chicago, will have begun the work, taking over what Miss Sessions has already established. They are planning to grow flowers to wholesale, and to specialize in the choice varieties of statice.

They are ambitious to be on their own land and to work out-of-doors. Miss Johnson expects to have some bees as a side issue, as the locality is so favorable for them.

Any members of the Floral Association driving to Mt. Soledad via La Mont avenue and the Soledad Terrace road (it is a very

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CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENTS

By K. O. Sessions.

Cacti are very interesting plants because of their many individual characteristics,—absence of foliage, very peculiar and abundant thorn development, sensitiveness to frost limits them to a few localities and they are not commonly grown or known; the very marvelous and beautiful flowers they produce and their growth in very dry and sunny localities.

The extensive collection established in the private gardens of Mr. H. E. Huntington at San Gabriel, Cal., is now in charge of a cacti specialist, who devotes all his time to the collection, and it is probably the best in the United States. It is growing on a sunny slope in the open.

In the city park at Riverside, Cal., there is also an excellent collection which is probably the best in any city park in California. It would be possible for Balboa Park in San Diego to have even a finer collection than these mentioned, for our conditions are fully as favorable. It is only a matter of time and interest,—a beginning should be made and such plantations increase rapidly when once begun. Mr. Morley has a plan well thought out and the Garden and the Floral Association should encourage such a beginning. In the park at the nursery and in the Golden Hill section there are quite a few good and some rare specimens. Many of these were collected in Mxico, having come indirectly from the fine collection made by Mrs. Elizabeth Grant at her home garden in San Diego some fifteen years ago.

Mexico has many cacti and at present and for the past few years all importations have been stopped, so the cacti market is very short.

There are a few local and small collections in San Diego, Mr. Vedder, Mrs. George Rogers, Mrs. Frick, Mr. Dorsey and Mr. George Rew of Coronado.

There are a few other plants that are associated with cacti groups because they grow under the same conditions—and Mr. and Mrs. Mather have made quite a collection of such, —Alces, Echevarias, Crassulas Sedums, Mesembryanthemums, Euphorbias and some five or six others,—names of which I cannot recall.

Some of the most beautiful bloomers are of the cereus group,—C. Grandiflora, C. Nycticaulis, C. triangularis are all climbers of various growth—night bloomers, and as they send out aerial roots that often cling and suck the surface of rock or wooden trellis and so help to climb and hold on. Mrs. John Doane has a C. triangularis climbing on the east side of her house. Mrs. Mitchell has the same over the walls of her Porte Cochere—Mr. A. D. Robinson a C. Grandiflorus on the east side of his glass house. These climbing Cereus prefer some shade. Their blooms are generally six to ten inches in length and six to eight inches in diameter and very magnificent. The rock walls about fields in Honolulu are covered with the C. triangularis, thousands of flowers are in bloom at once. Every good sized garden should have these growing.

Cereus spacianus is an erect growing spiny sort,—becoming three to five inches in diameter, three to five feet tall and growing in groups or clusters. Its beautiful white blossom opening at sunset is exquisite and lasts for two days,—one bloom was shown at the meeting at Mr. Naylor's. The Phyllocacti are a variety with flat thornless leaf-like stems (hence the name.) They bear many sorts of colored blossoms,—white, through pinks and light red, flowers six inches in length, beautifully made and with fine perfume. This class requires some shade and makes good porch and lath house specimens for pots or boxes. A fine one was shown by Mr. Naylor. Some of this sort are known as "Queen of the Night" cactus.

The bright flowering Christmas blooming sort called "Crab" cactus should be in a hanging basket in every lath house. There are three sorts, brilliant carmine to rose and salmon pink, thornless, and easy of culture, but it requires a few years to make a fine specimen. Mrs. Becker has an extra fine potted plant on her front porch in shade. Mrs. Frick has some superior grafted plants of this variety and Mrs. Bullard of Los Angeles (the Watsonia Expert) has been doing a lot of such grafting successfully. It is very interesting and the plants would sell very readily at the holiday season. An erect growing cereus is often used for the stem and also a stem of the Pereskia, the only cactus with foliage. This variety is a strong growing vine with heavy foliage, savage thorns, and small greenish white flowers. Our Colorado Desert, Mohave Desert, the rocky slopes, canyons leading to Imperial Valley, the lands surrounding Phoenix and Tuscon and Yuma all would yield at moderate cost handsome specimens of slow growth, very spiny, and brilliant in colors, with flowers not so extravagant but very exquisite and beautiful, though small.

Cape St. Lucas, extreme end of Lower California would yield very fine specimens, especially of the taller growing sorts. Mr. Samuel Parsons, who made the original plan for Bal-

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FERNS FOR LATH HOUSES

By Constance D. Bower.

Ferns seem to like lath house conditions just as well as begonias do. They may be the tiny, delicate ones, or as large as trees. Location in the lath house is not as important as it might seem, although ferns like the shade better than begonias do. One thing to bear in mind when planting and arranging ferns among other lath house inhabitants, is HOW LARGE IS THIS FERN GOING TO GROW! For instance, even the tree fern Alsophila Australis, looks meek and cunning when it is small. But give it six months or a year and it is almost boss of the whole lathworks. Consider well when placing any of the large varieties.

Ferns will stand a greater percentage of leaf mold and more fertilizer or "feeding" than begonias. Dryness induces Red Spider and some aphis. Keep all dead or dying foliage cut off. Don't handle the new growth for it will almost immediately wilt or turn brown. A gentle sprinkling off of foliage keeps the plant looking fresh and does no harm, but do not torture the poor fern by turning the water on it full force.

Tree ferns are quite scarce, but three decirable ones are: Alsophila Australis, Cibotium Schiedei and Lomaria Gibba.

Next to the tree ferns come the Brakes (cultivated and wild) and other intermediates as to growth. The following list contains those commonly grown and easiest to procure:

Sitolobium Cicutarium.
Brake—K. O. Sessions.
Woodwardia Radicans (wild in this state).
Pteris Longifolia.
Pteris Tremula
Pteris Argyrea.
Asplenium bulbiferum.
Cyrtomium Falcatum (holly fern).
Cyrtomium Fortunei.
Cyrtomium Rochfordii.
Blechnum Occidentale and Brasiliense.
Aspidium Tsussimense.
Doodia Aspera.

The Pteris or "finger ferns" ("p" is silent) are many and easy of culture. These are some of the best:

Pteris Adiantioides.
Pteris Cretica Alexandrae.
Ptris Cretica Albolineata.
Pteris Cretica Drinkwaterii.
Pteris Cretica Ouvrardii.
Pteris Hastata.
Pteris Serrulata.
Pteris Victoriae.
Pteris Wimsettii.
Pteris Wilsonii.

These Pteris usually grow from one to two feet high. Their fronds are delicately cut and fimbriated. Some are plain green and others show varigations of white and of yellow.

Daintiest, but by no means the most difficult to grow are the Adiantums or Maidenhairs. Some are suitable for ground culture, but the majority prefer bark boxes, large crocks or suspended baskets. To the amateur grower of maidenhairs the difference between varieties is seemingly small, but the family is one of the largest. One English concern has some seventy or more listed. Following are some of the best and easiest to grow:

Adiantum Capillus-veneris.
Adiantum Crowenanum.
Adiantum Cuneatum.
Adiantum Cuneatum grandiceps.
Adiantum Gracillimum (in variety)
Adiantum Hybridum.
Adiantum Pedatum.
Adiantum O'Brienii (creeping root habit).
Adiantum Lunulatum.
Adiantum Farleyense Gloriosum, more difficult.
Adiantum Formosum, more difficult.

Then for novelty there are the two varieties of climbing fern, Lygodium Japonicum and Palmatum.

Nephrolepis or "Bostons" are usually used in boxes or hanging baskets. Exaltata, Bostoniensis, Roosevelt, Whitmanii, Piersonii, Wanamaker, Amerpohlii, Muscosa and Smithii make a nice collection.

Platyceriums are strange things in the fern line and are grown upon bark. Alcicorne, or Elk's horn fern, is the commonest. Others are Grande, Willinckii and Mayi. The slabs of bark are fastened or hung against pillars or sides of the lath house.

Hardy ferns belong to an entirely different class and as Springtime is their best season, we will tell you about them later.

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Floral Association Meetings

Afternoon meeting, November 4, at 2:30 o'clock with Mr. Percy Whitehead, 4474 Hortensia, and tour through neighboring gardens and lath houses.

Evening meeting, November 16, at 8 o'clock at home of Miss Martha Frost, 2456 Broadway. Subject, "Grandmothers' Gardens"—Annuals and Perennials.

Evening meeting, December 14, at 8 o'clock at home of Mr. M. Kew, 224 Park avenue. Subject, "Shrubs: Native, Fragrant and Low Growing Varieties."

CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENTS

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boa Park, and who is a fine critic of plants, was very greatly impressed with that tall growing variety from Mexico known as the "Organ Pipe". The Opuntia or prickly pear variety is very imposing when grown in a hedge ten to fifteen feet high and as wide, when the leaves are not mutilated with carved initials! The old hedge at the San Diego Mission should be replanted and some of the thornless varieties added.

COURSE OF LECTURES BY UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURER

Francis M. Fultz, who delighted audiences of nature lovers with his color picture lectures on native flora last winter, will be heard here again in a series of four lectures under the auspices of the San Diego Floral Association. Dates will be announced later.

A NEW FLOWER GROWING COLONY

Continued from page 9

fine trip and sightly too) should stop and give a word of greeting to these women who are helping this flower growing colony to start. It may become quite a business enterprise in the near future and is certainly a start for home products as well as very wholesome vocation.

(Contributed to the California Garden by Miss K. O. Sessions, who is in Los Angeles for a few days, and asked me to send it in. May I add that as a new resident myself, I can fully appreciate how helpful your Flower Shows are to those starting a garden for the first time in San Diego.)

Respectfully,
M. S. WERT.

FLOWER-DE-LUCE

Beautiful lily, dwelling by still rivers,
Or solitary mere,
Or where the sluggish meadow-brook delivers
Its water to the weir!

Thou art the Iris, fair among the fairest,
Who, armed with golden rod
And winged with the celestial azure, bearest
The message of some God.

—Longfellow.

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